poor metering and billing and non-realisation of dues. The draft report on Performance of State Power Utilities for the years 2004-05 to 2006-07 prepared by the Power Finance Corporation indicates that the AT&C Loss of the State Power Utilities at the national level for 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 was 34.82%, 35.18% and 33.07% respectively of the total energy available for sale.

(b) No such information is available.

Problems in power sector

†1517. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the power generation is not in proportion to its consumption, as a result of which the people are facing the problem of low frequency and tripping;

(b) if so, whether Government is formulating any effective plan to increase power generation and whether Government intends to formulate any plan to give boost to solar energy;

(c) whether transmission losses also are one of the reasons for power problem; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The rate of growth of demand for power is outstripping the growth in its availability, the power generation in the country falls short of the total requirement. Low frequency is experienced in power system whenever the connected load becomes more than the available generation. In order to maintain safety and security of the grid, load shedding is also resorted to in various States /systems from time to time, by disconnection of supply feeders, manually and also through automatic under-frequency operation, commensurate with the availability of power.

(b) In order to meet increasing demand of power, Government has set a Capacity Addition target of 78,700 MW from utility power plants during the 11th Five Year Plan. On the basis of latest assessment, capacity addition of 79,790 MW is feasible during the 11th Plan, out of which 11,322 MW has already been commissioned upto 30th November, 2008 and balance capacity of 68,468 MW is under construction.

The other measures taken/being taken to improve power generation in the country include close monitoring and review of capacity addition of the on-going power generation projects, development of a number of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4000 MW each under competitive bidding, harnessing surplus captive power into grid, import of coal to bridge the gap between domestic availability of coal and anticipated demand of coal, etc.

A capacity addition of 15,000 MW (14,000 MW grid-interactive and 1,000 MW off-grid /distributed) from renewable energy sources is envisaged during the 11th Plan. Thus, by the end of the 11th Plan grid-interactive renewable power installed capacity is likely to cross 24,000 MW or about 11 per cent of the then likely total installed power generation capacity. A total outlay of Rs. 1,000 crore has been allocated for grid-interactive and distributed renewable power generation during the 11th Plan period.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The National Action Plan on Climate Change has identified large-scale solar power generation as one of the thrust areas under the Solar Mission. It envisages solar power capacity of 20,000 MW by 2020.

(c) and (d) High Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses is one of the reasons contributing to power problem. While technical losses reduce the availability of power to the ultimate consumer, the commercial losses result in poor financial health of the distribution company. The draft report on Performance of State Power Utilities for the years 2004-05 to 2006-07 prepared by the Power Finance Corporation indicates that out of the total energy available for sale, the AT&C losses of the State Power Utilities at the national level for 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 were 34.33 %, 34.54% and 32.07% respectively.

Supply of gas from Ratnagiri power plant

1518. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, for want of feedstock, the Ratnagiri Power Plant is planning to scale down or even stop generation from September, 2009;

(b) whether the present supply of 1.7 MTPA gas is barely sufficient to keep the units in operation till September, 2009; and

(c) whether Government has plans to source liquefied natural gas for the power plant by 2009 and if so, whether the requisite LNG terminal facility would be ready in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) At present, Ratnagiri Gas and Power Pvt Limited (RGPPL) has a tie-up of 5.4 Million Standard Cubic Metres per Day (MMSCMD) of Regassified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) from Petronet Dahej upto September, 2009 against the current requirement of 1.4 MMSCMD of RLNG. Based on the current machine revival/ availability schedule, following is the expected gas requirement of RGPPL.(in MMSCMD):

Dec. 15, '08	Jan. '09	Mar. '09	May '09	Jun. '09
2.8	4.2	5.6	7.0	8.4

The above working assumes no major machine related outage.

The Government has decided that RGPPL be supplied 1.4 MMSCMD during January-March, 2009 and 2.7 MMSCMD during April to September, 2009, subject to commencement of production from Reliance Industries Limited's KG D6 field. Further, 8.5 MMSCMD would be supplied to RGPPL after September, 2009 from the production from KG basin. The LNG regassification facility is currently under revival for which LNG needs to be tied up at affordable price.

Hydel power shortage in Peninsular India

1519. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large parts of peninsular India are suffering from hydel power shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and